From: Simmons, Denise
To: Richard Wilkins
Subject: Re: Please vote "No" against anti-Israel/anti-Semitic resolution!
Date: Thursday, April 19, 2018 2:19:01 PM

Dear Mr. Wilkins,

Thank you for your email. So far, I have not yet seen an actual draft of the proposed resolution asking the City to cease purchasing HP equipment and supplies. I understand there's been a great deal of concern in the community about this matter – yet I must underscore that **this will only appear on the City Council's April 23 agenda if one or more City Councilors sponsor it.** We will not know if it is on the agenda until either a City Councilor publicly declares that they'll be sponsoring this (to my knowledge, this has not happened), or until the agenda is finalized by the Clerk's Office and posted online this Thursday evening around 5:30 pm (indeed, the latest I'm hearing is that the organization looking to have this sponsored may be recalculating as to when they think this can be introduced). I can, at the very least, confirm that *I* am not a sponsor of such a resolution.

There have been numerous passionate op-eds, emails, and social media posts condemning the City Council for rushing this to a vote without adequate opportunities for the public to weigh in, or even giving people a chance to read the resolution. Some people have condemned the City Council for seemingly being on the brink of passing this resolution, or for seemingly being on the brink of rejecting it. Neither scenario is accurate. While I understand the passion behind this matter, I must clarify that we do not yet actually have a resolution or policy order in front of us, there has been absolutely no debate about this amongst the City Councilors, and the City Council will not have an opportunity to take this up for consideration unless and until a resolution is sponsored by at least one of us and introduced at a public meeting. At this point, I am not yet certain if such a resolution will be introduced or not.

I appreciate your reaching out and sharing your views on this. I am currently reading up on this issue to be better informed, I am reviewing all the emails and letters coming in about this issue, and I am reaching out to our representatives in Congress to seek their input on an issue that is more international than municipal in scope. Should this matter end up on before the City Council – either on April 23 or at a later date – I will look forward to engaging in a thoughtful discussion and debate with my colleagues on the Council and then seeing how to best resolve this matter in a way that allows everyone to feel they have had a fair chance to be heard. Thank you.

E. Denise Simmons

From: Richard Wilkins <rdwilkins01@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 12:21 PM
To: City Council
Cc: McGovern, Marc; Devereux, Jan; Carlone, Dennis; Kelley, Craig; amallone@cambridgeMA.gov; Siddiqui, Sumbul; Simmons, Denise; ttoomers@cambridgeMA.gov; gzondervan@cambridgeMA.gov
Subject: Please vote 'No' against anti-Israel/anti-Semitic resolution!

605 Scott Avenue
Syracuse, New York 13224
19 April 2018

Members of the Cambridge, MA City Council:

How could any self-respecting U.S. city council even consider the extremely offensive anti-Israel/anti-Semitic resolution to be voted on next Monday? Its call "to end its contracts" with Hewlett-Packard (HP) until HP "ends their support for violence against and oppression of Palestinians, deportations and surveillance of immigrants in the U.S., and oppression and surveillance of those currently and formerly incarcerated in the U.S." insidiously masks its true purpose. What an ill-fitting array of "intersectional" claptrap, transparently worded to obscure obvious nefarious intent!

, However mischievous, this lies-based resolution is hardly harmless. It is at the tip end of a very long, and growing, deadly spear. Anti-Israel zealots 24/7 seek any and every possible means to undermine, delegitimize, and ultimately destroy the world's one Jewish state, and the only fully democratic Mideast nation. Their despicable tactics have long permeated Northamerican college campuses and academic associations. They seek now to move more deeply into local politics, seeking out especially soft targets. Please don't be one! Cambridge doesn't need a foreign policy.

Political "progressives" increasingly see Israel as the "enemy", while bizarrely embracing as "friends" the most "regressive" entities and movements. There's nothing, for example, at all "progressive" about Hamas, a racist, misogynist, homophobic, anti-democratic, corrupt oppressor of its unfortunate Gaza subjects, Will the Council effectively stand with such enemies of freedom as Hamas, Hezbollah, Iran, and Assad? Will the Council ignore the many horrors now roiling the world to "select out" solely the Jewish nation for condemnation? Will it gratuitously insult the very large Greater Boston Jewish community? Surely it won't.

Please vote 'NO'!

Sincerely yours,

Richard D. Wilkins